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CUBAN EMBASSY IN MEXICO CITY
SOVIET EMBASSY IN MEXICO CITY
OSWALD, LEE, POST-RUSSIAN PERIOD, TRAVEL, TRIP TO
MEXICO
DURAN, SILVIA

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put in contact with a Soviet official on Saturday, September 28, 1963, was Lee Harvey Oswald. The American citizen had previously visited the Soviet Consulate and called from Sylvia Duran's office on a Saturday when the guard never allowed visitors into the Cuban compound. The Committee feels that

~~↳ See other page~~ The Committee feels that Sylvia may have lied about an Oswald visit to the Cuban Consulate on Saturday, September 28, 1963, for either of two reasons: 1) She did not wish to disclose that Oswald had visited the Cuban

Consulate ~~one~~ again after his argument with Consul Eusebio

Ryue and that she had decided to aid him; 2) Ms.

Duran may have had personal reasons. ^{Ms. Duran} ~~for~~ ^{Elena} ~~admitting~~

~~reported~~ ~~that she~~ attended a "twist party at Ruben Duran's house which Oswald, accompanied by two other ^{American} young men, also attended. [See write-up.] Elena also reported ~~that~~ ^{See write-up} ~~that~~ Duran had an affair with Lee Harvey Oswald. (ibid)

The Committee ~~is~~ ^{presently} attempting to locate Elena.

Wax or
if Elena story is true
Ms. Elena story
if she is intelligent
Ms. Elena story
Cuban

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002030

Barro de Paz who might have
[See Elena Write-up]

If Sylvia Duran did in fact have an affair with Lee Harvey
Oswald, he might have visited the Consulate on Saturday and
Sylvia would have denied it.

The Committee also feels that there is a possibility
that the man Sylvia met on the phone with the Soviet official
on September 28, 1963 was not Oswald. The man she met on
the line spoke broken Russian. Both George Deukmejian,
Marina Oswald and George Soule all stated that Oswald
spoke a very refined Russian and that he preferred speaking

Note: Strong
C.H.S.
Russian to English. [

Nonetheless Ms. Duran lied ^{+ the Commi} about the guard not allowing

visitors into the Cuban compound on Saturday as the electronic
surveillance files for September 28¹⁹⁶³ illustrates.

When Eusebio Ayene and Sylvia Truado were ~~questioned~~ asked to describe Lee Harvey Oswald, both gave similar descriptions of him that are not even remotely close to ~~what Oswald~~ ^{Oswald's physical} appearance. ~~looked to~~ Consul Ayene stated that the man that visited the Consulate looking for a visa differed from HSCA J7K Exhibit No. as follows: his nose was more aquiline; his eyelashes were straighter; his hair was blonde; his height was between five foot six and five foot seven; he was between 35 and 37 years of age; his cheeks were sunken; and, he had a cold look in his eyes. [House Select Committee on Assassinations Interview of Eusebio Ayene, , J7K Document No. , pg. 19-21] Consul Eusebio Ayene further stated that the man who came to the Cuban Consulate requesting an

entrance visa and the gun that Jack Ruby assassinated
at the Dallas police station - which he saw on television -
were different persons. [ibid p.18]

Ms. Trudo stated that the gun that visited
the Cuban Consulate and the gun she saw Jack Ruby
assassinate at the Dallas police station were the same gun.

[HSCA Interview of Sylvia Duran, 6/6/78, JFK Document No. , p.]

Yet, when Ms. Trudo describes the Lee Harvey Oswald that visited
the Cuban Consulate, the man does not really bear any
resemblance to Lee Harvey Oswald. Ms. Trudo stated that
Lee Harvey Oswald was approximately five foot six, had blonde
hair, weighed about 125 lbs, had small eyes, smaller
fingers than Ed Soggy (HSCA staffer) and did not have
very much hair. [ibid p. 96]

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Since

Neither description resembles Oswald the Committee

has determined that there is a possibility that the man who

visited the Cuban Consulate was not Lee Harvey Oswald. It is

difficult to ~~conclude~~ ^{justify} the above since the House Select Committee

Handwriting Panel has determined that the signature on the

visa application matches other samples of Lee Harvey Oswald's

signature. There is a possibility that a man ^{who} claimed ~~claimed~~ ^{and}

that he was Lee Harvey Oswald filed no an application,

took it to Lee Harvey Oswald who filled it, ^{stamped it, was} signed

it and then returned to the Cuban Consulate once

again impersonating him. The Committee considers this a

possibility because when the Committee staffers asked Duran

if she would ever have allowed a person to take the

application out of the Consulate, fill them out, attach a photo

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and sign them and then return them to the Embassy

she answered affirmatively [ibid p.31] [Also no photos materialized]
she stated yes. The one problem with this

possibility is that Ms. Inada stated that she thinks

See Harvey Oswald signed the visa application in her presence.

[ibid p. 33]

CIA HANDLING OF SYLVIA DURAN MATTER

When John F. Kennedy was assassinated on November 22, 1963, the United States investigative agencies - FBI, CIA, Secret Service, etc. - were asked to investigate the assassination. When the Central Intelligence Agency learned that Lee Harvey Oswald had visited Mexico City

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between late September and early October they reviewed

their files and found in the electronic surveillance files

phone calls to the Soviet Embassy made Sept 27th, Sept 28th

[See Telephone Source] [CIS and USSR
Electronic Surveillance Section]

and Oct 1st ~~was~~ that could have been made by Oswald. They

also found phone calls between the Russian Consul and

Sylvia Duran where Oswald appeared to be discussed. [See Soviet

Electronic Surveillance Section] In addition they found a phone call made

by Sylvia Duran to the Soviet Consulate on Sept 28, 1978, where

Sylvia Duran stated that there was an American citizen at the

Cuban Consulate who had previously visited the Soviet Consulate.

*a man
got off
and later I saw on the line. [See Soviet Electronic Surveillance
Section]*

was also found. [See Soviet Electronic Surveillance Section]

From
Draft

EPC

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at the ^{point} ~~point~~ the Central Intelligence Agency determined

that it would ask the Mexican government whether it

had a good relationship with the arrest of Sylvia Diana

because she might shed some light on the circumstances

surrounding the assassination. Sylvia Diana was also

a Mexican citizen and had not been registered

minimally. The Central Intelligence Agency's Mexico City

Station sent a note to Luis Pachano requesting

that he arrest Sylvia Diana de Duran immediately.

The agency stated that she was a Mexican citizen

who had put Donald in touch with the Soviet

Embassy. It gave Pachano a note with Duran's

address, her mother's address, her brother's

address, her license plate numbers, her phone line

number and her place of work. The Mexico City

Station also suggested that Duran be held ~~imprisoned~~
until she could be questioned on the matter. (Note to

Miss Bohemian to assist Sylvia Duran, Nov. 23, 1963)

CIA No 444; Cable re Oswald-Duran, WASH 7029, November

23, 1963, CIA No 1141; Anne Goodwin: chronology, WASH 7241,

entry 36, November 23, 1963, CIA No 1350)

The request to Miss Bohemian was
not authorized by the Central Intelligence Agency
Headquarters. When they received the cable on

November 23, 1963, Headquarters found that the
correct
~~abortion~~ surveillance agencies might be endangered

and Jack Whitten ^{station} at Langley Headquarters telephoned Windsor
with the ^{WDCP} info. to the chief of station asking that Sylvia Duran not
be arrested. Deich told Whitten that it was for Duran

that he could not recall this request and that Headquarters

should already have received a cable which stated:

that this Cubanista had already been asked for

any info. Duman, as a Mexican initiative. (Note

written by Chief of Station in phone call with Jack

Whitten, Nov 23, 1963; Chronology prepared by Annex

Gordgarden, W# 7241, entry 37, Nov 23, 1963, CIA No 440-635)

East Western Service, when telephoned him, Cubanista

and stated that the agency hoped that Isylma

Duman's agents would be kept absolutely secret,

that no information from her would get published in

media, that all information received from Duman

got called to Washington immediately through the

Mexico City Station and that her answers and

statements not passed to any higher groups. (Chief

of Station phone call to this Cubanista, Nov 23, 1963, CIA No 440,

Flash Cable from Karamanios to Mexico City Station

Nov. 23, 1963, DIR 84916, CIA No. 483; Chronology of Anne Burdette

entry 46, November 23, 1963, CIA No. 636.)

The Central Intelligence Agency feared

that if it was discovered that American wires

behind the arrest of Sylvia Duran, it would endanger

other covert surveillance operations. For this reason the Mexican City Station ^{continuing} ~~covert surveillance operations must be discontinued~~

requested ~~the~~ the Mexican to arrest Sylvia Duran on

their initiative. Similar logic dictated that when they

requested the Mexican City Station to request the Mexican

authorities to interrogate Sylvia Duran to the extent

necessary to clarify the underlying fact, ^{raised} in

their cable the previous forty-eight hours. Headquarters

stated that the Mexican City Station could provide

guidance for the local interrogation but that they

wished no Americans to come in contact with

Duran. (Cable CIA Headquarters to Mexico City Station,

Nov. 27, 1963, DIR-85818, CIA No 497; Chronology of Ameri-

can activities, Nov. 27, 1963, entry no 121, CIA No 655; 2. When

on November 27, 1963, the Mexico City Station sent a

telegraphic copy of Lydia Duran's press page signed

statement to Headquarters (Cable Mexico City Station -

to Headquarters; Nov. 27, 1963, MSG 7105, CIA No. 474;

Chronology of Amer.bridge, Manila, Nov. 27, 1963, entry

no. 127, CIA No. 656) the following day Headquarters

sent a telegraphic cable to the Mexico City Station.

Headquarters wanted to know whether Lydia

Duran and the Cubans got the impression that

the Americans were behind her arrest. The cable

stated: "we want the Mexican authorities to take

the responsibility for the whole affair." (Cable from Headquarters to the Mexico City Station, November 28, 1963, DIR 853.71, CIA No 464 ;

Chronology of Anne Hodgeson, November 28, 1963, Wx7241, entry no 141, CIA No. 658)

When the Central Intelligence began to deal with the Warren Commission Headquarters cable Mexico City Station that their present plan in passing information to the Warren Commission was to eliminate mention of telephone tags in order to protect their continuing operations. The Central Intelligence Agency stated that they would rely on Sylvia Duran's statements and on the Consular files which the Soviets gave the State Department. Headquarters stressed that exact, detailed information from Istanbul-7 and Istanbul-9 (Penetration agents in the Cuban Embassy) on just what Sylvia Duran and other officials said about Oswald's visits and his

dealings would be valuable and usable corroborative evidence.

(CIA cable from Headquarters to Mexico City Station, Dec 21, 1963)

DIR 90466, CIA No. 549; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture;

Dec. 21, 1963, entry no. 268, CIA No. 682)

Prior to the Warren Commission staffers - Messers

Willens, Dawson and Coleman - visit to Mexico City

in April 1964 the Agency still felt that if an American contacted Sylvia Duran
their covert continuing surveillance operations might be endangered.

Headquarters cabled the Mexico City Station that one of the

toughy subjects that the staffers would discuss was whether

they should talk to Sylvia Duran in Mexico at the

Consulate (Cable Headquarters to Mexico City Station, April 8, 1964,

DIR 13026, CIA No. 533; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture, April

8, 1964, entry no. 320, CIA No. 698) Headquarters

the Warren Commission staffers knew that the Central Intelligence

Agency had tap and wire and that they ^{might} have guessed

from the coverage that they had photo points and a source

in the Cuban Embassy but that they did not know the

details of the Agency's arrangements with the Mission. Headquarters

stressed that the chief of station should lend them all the needed

assistance with the minimum possible disclosure of assets

and techniques (italics)

At this point the House Select Committee on Assassinations

~~has determined~~ ~~that~~
~~that they have shown how sensitive the Central~~

Intelligence Agency thought their continuing electronic
surveillance operations ^{should remain} ~~in~~. The Warren Commission would

have ^{needed to} disclosed sensitive information to contradict Sylvia

Duran's story. The Central Intelligence Agency had

input into what could go in as ^{the} ~~go in the~~

Warren Report. [See Chuck Beck W.t.-Up]